

Selkirk College Campus Master Plan

Strategic Roadmap

A working document in support of the Campus Master Plan update process

About this document

This roadmap is a working document developed as part of the process to update Selkirk College's Campus Master Plan. Building on the 2020 Campus Master Plan, it summarizes the strategic direction, current initiatives, and phased investment priorities that will be explored and refined through internal consultation beginning April 2026. It is intended to support those conversations — not to represent a final or completed plan. The Campus Master Plan itself will continue to evolve as input is gathered from employees, students, First Nations and Métis partners, and the broader college community. This roadmap will raise questions — about programs, about people, about places. Those questions are welcome, and this consultation is how we work through them together.

Our Vision

The updated Campus Master Plan will translate Selkirk College's strategic ambition into a clear and integrated framework for the physical development of our campuses. Rooted in the College's vision of being Canada's destination for applied learning and inquiry grounded in a sense of land and place, it guides the institution toward a bold and deliberate future. Central to that future is a strategic proposal — not yet a decision — to focus our resources where they will have the greatest and most lasting impact: our three owned campuses — Silver King in Nelson; Castlegar; and Trail. We recognize this direction raises real questions, and we are committed to working through them together.

By focusing resources on the campuses we own, Selkirk College would be able to build the kind of rich, connected campus communities that a more distributed model cannot fully achieve. Campuses with deeper investment would allow us to provide students, employees and community members with the full range of programs, services and applied learning environments that we can offer. Investing in our owned campuses would build more long-term institutional equity, enable lasting physical expressions of our commitments to Indigenization and sustainability, and give funders and partners the confidence that investment in Selkirk College will endure. It would also increase the vibrancy and quality of the student experience at each of our locations.

Selkirk College's commitment to its programs and the students who depend on them remains unchanged. As the College explores a move toward three primary campuses, programs currently delivered at Tenth Street would find new homes at Silver King and across our campus network — continuing to serve students and the region, in environments built to support them well into the future. We understand this direction has real implications for the people who work and learn at Tenth Street, and those implications will be central to the consultation process. The internal consultation process beginning in April 2026 is an important step in shaping this vision together — exploring what strategic investment in our campuses means for students, employees, and the communities we serve, and ensuring the updated Campus Master Plan reflects the full breadth of our collective ambitions.

Current Campus Initiatives

Selkirk College is already taking meaningful steps toward the vision at the heart of this plan. The following initiatives are underway across our campuses — developed in concert, each informing the other, and all grounded in our shared commitments to students, community, and the land.

Landscape Management Plan	Interior Finishes Plan
---------------------------	------------------------

• Comprehensive long-term vision for outdoor environments at all three campuses • Outdoor learning spaces for field-based and land-based instruction • Biodiversity, native plantings, and stormwater management • Gathering spaces for ceremony, community, rest, and reflection • Campus grounds as living demonstrations of sustainable practice	• Consistent, high-quality aesthetic experience across all three campuses • Shared palette of materials, colours, furnishings, and wayfinding elements • Applied consistently as spaces are renovated and renewed over time • Clear statement: every student deserves an equally excellent environment • College brand identity woven thoughtfully throughout
Campus Accessibility • Rick Hansen Foundation assessment completed — informing priority improvements • Commitment to meeting and exceeding accessibility standards across all campuses • Universal design as a foundational requirement in all new developments • Entrances, pathways, seating, lighting, acoustics, and signage addressed holistically	Indigenization of the Physical Campus • Long-standing, ongoing partnership with Sinixt, Syilx, Ktunaxa, Secwépemc Peoples and the Métis community • Nation Partners engaged as co-creators in planning and design • Indigenous art, cultural expressions, and gathering spaces woven throughout campuses • Wayfinding and signage incorporating Indigenous place names and languages

Phased Implementation Roadmap

The path forward unfolds in three phases, each building on the last. The work begins now — with consultation, investment, and the planning initiatives already underway across our campuses. Over the medium and longer term, that foundation supports a gradual transition toward a consolidated, owned-campus model, and ultimately a future where Silver King, Castlegar, and Trail are each recognized destinations for applied learning, deeply connected to their communities and the land. No phase begins before the groundwork of the one before it is in place.

Phase	Key Priorities & Initiatives
Short Term Years 1–3	→ Internal consultation sessions launching April 2026 — gathering input on the benefits of strategic campus investment as part of the Campus Master Plan update process → Complete Landscape Management and Interior Finishes Plans; begin implementation at all three campuses → Action accessibility priority improvements informed by the Rick Hansen Foundation assessment → Assess and address deferred maintenance posing greatest risk to operations or student experience → Advance Indigenization of the physical campus in partnership with Nation partners — from intention to practice → Castlegar: bring outdoor classroom environments to life across the forested campus landscape

Medium Term Years 3–7	→ Transition leased facilities; consolidate footprint to three owned campuses — including a planned transition away from Tenth Street and Victoria Street in Nelson, subject to consultation ○ <i>Note on leased campuses: The Grand Forks Campus lease has recently been renewed, ensuring continuity of service to that community — no changes to Grand Forks are anticipated as part of this plan. The Tenth Street Campus in Nelson is leased from the City of Nelson; renewal negotiations are currently underway and a finalized agreement is expected by July 2026. The longer-term direction being explored through this Campus Master Plan is a transition away from Tenth Street as programs find new homes within the owned campus network — a process that will unfold carefully and in consultation with employees and students. The current lease renewal provides stability while that work proceeds.</i> → Renew or replace buildings at end of useful life; develop new academic and student spaces at all three campuses → Silver King: infrastructure investment to expand program range beyond trades into applied technology and other areas of regional need → Actively pursue provincial, federal, philanthropic, and industry funding for capital projects
Long Term Years 7–10+	→ Physical consolidation complete; aging infrastructure replaced or renewed at all three campuses → Each campus fully equipped with buildings, landscapes, and spaces for future generations of learners → Campuses widely recognized as beautiful, sustainable, accessible, and deeply connected to land and community → Long-term institutional equity built through owned assets; value retained and compounding for generations → Plan continuously refreshed and refined; direction remains — forward, together, grounded in place

Campus Investment Profiles

Each of Selkirk College's three primary campuses has its own character, programs, and strategic trajectory. What unites them is a shared commitment to immersive, land-connected education, sustainability, and the belief that the physical environment is itself a powerful teacher. These profiles reflect the long-term investment focus of this plan; they do not diminish the value of the programs and people at our other locations. The employees and students currently at Tenth Street are a valued part of the Selkirk College community, and any transition will be planned carefully, respectfully, and in close consultation with the people it affects.

Silver King Campus Nelson — Trades & Applied Learning 2019 Trades Renewal \$23.2M 2021 Childcare Centre \$1.5M 2024 Student Housing (36 units) \$37.7M* Future focus	Castlegar Campus Main Campus — Academic & Admin Hub Site 65-hectare owned Buildings 16 owned 2024 Student Housing 114 beds Future focus Renew aging Main Building complex. Develop outdoor	Trail Campus & STAC Lower Columbia — Tech & Health 2022 Building Acquired \$1 + \$1M prov. 2026 STAC Expansion \$3.3M NSERC Tech Access Centre National Future focus
--	---	--

Expand beyond trades into applied technology, arts, and environmental programs. Additional student housing. Significant room to grow on owned land.	classrooms in the forested landscape. New facilities for health, environment, arts, and technology programs.	Grow STAC applied research capacity in particle accelerator technology, medical isotopes, and advanced manufacturing. Strengthen the region's digital fabrication hub.
---	--	--

* Dual-campus initiative shared with Castlegar; funded by Province of BC and Columbia Basin Trust.

Decision-Making Principles

As the College moves forward, all campus development decisions — whether a new building, landscape improvement, a space renovation, or a change in use — will be evaluated against the following principles. These are drawn from the 2020 Campus Master Plan and directly align with the four strategic directions of the Selkirk College Strategic Plan 2025–2040: Land, Learning & Legacy.

Advance the Mission Investments must support the College's mission to inspire generations of changemakers through relevant, inventive, and sustainable education — Canada's destination for applied learning grounded in land and place. (Vision & Mission)	Safeguard Long-Term Fiscal Health Campus investments must be financially sustainable and build long-term institutional equity. Owned assets retain value, reduce operating costs, and strengthen the College's fiscal position for future generations. (Strategic Direction 1.3)
Create Engaging & Memorable Student Experiences The physical campus must deliver more engaging, supportive, and memorable experiences at all three campuses — spaces that inspire belonging, enable applied learning, and reflect the College's pride in place. (Strategic Direction 4.2)	Nurture Our Role as a Trusted Partner Campus development strengthens relationships with First Nations and Métis Peoples, regional communities, industry, and partners — reinforcing the College's role as the heartbeat of the West Kootenay and Boundary regions. (Strategic Direction 1.2)
Deepen Our Relationship with the Land Every investment must reflect the College's commitment to environmental stewardship, Indigenization, Reconciliation, and Seven Generations thinking — grounding decisions in sustainability and reciprocity with the land. (Strategic Directions 1.1 & 2.2)	Support Innovation & Regional Impact Campus infrastructure must enable innovative approaches to applied learning, research, and program delivery — cultivating an entrepreneurial spirit and positioning the College to deliver distinctive, high-impact education. (Strategic Directions 4.1 & 4.3)

Funding Strategy

Realizing the full vision of this Campus Master Plan will require investment beyond what the College can achieve through its operating budget alone. Selkirk College is actively pursuing a diversified funding strategy:

- Provincial and federal capital funding programs
- Columbia Basin Trust grants and regional investment programs
- Community and industry partnerships aligned with the College's educational mission
- Revenue generated through campus operations and third-party tenancies
- Philanthropic giving and donor partnerships

The College's transition to an owned, consolidated campus model strengthens its position in all funding conversations. Owned assets demonstrate institutional stability and commitment and give funders and partners confidence that their investment will be well stewarded and will endure.

A Living Document

This Campus Master Plan is a living framework, a foundation from which the College will build, learn, and adapt over time. It will be formally reviewed on a regular schedule, updating campus sections as planning advances and revising the strategic framework based on new information, partnerships, and opportunities.

What will not change is the vision at the heart of this document: campuses that are rooted in land and community, that reflect the College's deepest values, and that offer every learner who walks through the door an experience worthy of the remarkable place and people that make Selkirk College what it is.

Where place meets purpose. Where land meets learning. Where the past honours the future.